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USSR Report

AGRICULTURE

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13 November 1985

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AGRICULTURE

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

PRAVDA ASSESSES COURSE OF GRAIN HARVEST IN EAST

PM201254 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 85 first edition p 1

[Editorial: "Grain from the Eastern Steppes"]

[Excerpts] Harvesting in the country's east is now in its decisive stage. North Kazakhstan's oblasts alone have to harvest over 15 million hectares of crops. The fields in the Urals and Siberia are vast. Crop farmers and their partners everywhere are striving to gather the harvest in time and store it safely.

Harvesting in the eastern regions is always complex. And particularly so this year. The grains are ripening unevenly and later than usual, and the fall weather is unstable and freakish. It is important to "outwit" it and gain time. This can be done by those who considered the difficulties in advance and skillfully maneuver their resources and funds. However, the machine operators' labor and equipment servicing are still poorly organized in some places. And the result of all this? Breakdowns, idle time, and a slow pace of the harvesting and sale of grain. This is encountered for example, on many farms in Kustanay, Kurgan, Irkutsk, and several other oblasts.

To organize matters properly instead of seeking to justify blunders-- this is what is now required from rural leaders and specialists, combine operators, and drivers. Local party, Soviet and economic organs must hold people strictly to account for omissions and slackness and must ensure a steady pace of harvesting work. The harvest proceeds best where contracts and financial autonomy are used. Such collectives show greater concern for the efficient use of equipment, front-ranking experience, and the sensible combination of separate reaping and direct combine harvesting. There are quite a few such subdivisions in Omsk oblast. Working people there intend to over-fulfill the annual plan for grain sales to the state.

Transportation is an important link in the harvest production line. Beyond the Urals, where transport distances are great, it assumes exceptional importance. The shortage of vehicles in some places still causes turmoil in field work. Each such instance demands that timely and effective measures be taken.

The procurement workers are also facing a responsible test today. The pace of harvesting and of grain deliveries to the state depends to a considerable degree on them. The material and technical base of elevators in the east has strengthened over the last few years. They now have large storehouses, modern loading and unloading facilities, and laboratories. In some places, however, preparations for the season have been poor and the driers, weighbridges, and approach roads are in a poor condition. It is not everywhere that departmental barriers have been successfully overcome or the efficient utilization of equipment has been ensured. Take for example the fields of Kokchetav oblast's Kotyrkolskiy sovkhov, which is only a few hundred meters away from Zhasylski grain reception center. And yet the farm is taking its grain to be dried and cleaned at threshing floors 12 km away, even though the enterprise's capacities are still not fully used. There are many such examples. The union and republican ministries of procurements and agriculture must secure closer cooperation between their subdivisions and services and must ensure correct settlements with suppliers. It is important to improve the material incentives for the production and sales of strong and hard wheats. Today there are still opportunities to considerably increase the deliveries of high quality grain, and these opportunities must be fully utilized.

CSO: 1824/033

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SELSKAYA ZHIZN VIEWS SOWING PREPARATIONS

PM221031 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Aug 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Winter Sowing"]

[Excerpts] It is essential that preparatory work be completed everywhere as quickly as possible, paying particular attention to ensuring that sowing is carried out at the optimum time, using seeds of the best zoned varieties, that fertilizer for the planned harvest is applied, and that a package of measures is carried out to protect plants from weeds, pests, and diseases.

However, the carrying out of these and other agricultural intensification measures is behindhand. For example, as of 5 August only 20 percent of fallow land was ready for winter sowing in Bryansk Oblast, 34 percent in Ivanovo Oblast, 37 percent in Sverdlovsk Oblast, 38 percent in Orel Oblast, 38 percent in the Mordovian ASSR, and 45 percent in Ryazan Oblast. Preparation of soil for sowing must be decisively speeded up and improved.

Unfortunately, enough seed has not yet been laid in for sowing. By the beginning of August the RSFSR had only 42 percent of its seed requirements and the Ukraine 62 percent. A number of places still have a poor seed provision owing to the late ripening of winter crops, and carry-over stocks are very low.

Farm leaders, specialists, the USSR Varietal Seed Raising Production Association, and local agroindustrial bodies must remove these shortcomings without delay. It is intolerable that regions of the Nonchernozem Zone and Siberia, where sowing is already beginning, have still not had enough seed material delivered. Because considerable areas will have to be sown with freshly harvested seeds it is essential that they be carefully cleaned and dried in the shortest time possible using open-air and heating processes. Not a single hectare intended for winter crops must be sown with untreated seeds.

CSO: 1824/28

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

IZVESTIYA REVIEWS HARVEST PROGRESS, PROBLEMS

PM191334 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Sep 85 Morning Edition p 2

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": "The Value of Grain"]

[Excerpts] According to USSR central statistical administration data, by Monday 16 September grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) in the country had been cut on 97.5 million hectares and threshed on 90 million hectares, or 92 percent of the total cut. Grain corn has been gathered from 658,000 hectares. Rice has been threshed on 68,000 hectares, sunflowers have been gathered from 745,000 hectares (19 percent) and sugar beets have been lifted from 454,000 hectares (13 percent). Fiber flax has been pulled from 756,000 hectares (74 percent), potatoes have been lifted from 1.1 million hectares (38 percent), vegetables have been picked from 508,000 hectares (44 percent).

Procurements amount to 71.8 million metric tons of hay (92 percent), 73.6 million metric tons of haylage, 146.3 million metric tons of silage, 72.7 million metric tons of straw, 6.3 million metric tons of grass meal, and 2.3 million metric tons of feed root crops.

The weather has not been bad in the Urals, west Siberia, and north Kazakhstan over the last few days. This enabled the farms to accelerate the pace of threshing, and grain was harvested on 10.9 million hectares in the country during the week (10.2 million hectares during the previous 7 days). Of course, most is happening in the eastern granaries. For example, Kustanay oblast's kolkhozes and sovkhoses achieved the highest productivity since the start of harvesting: grain crops were harvested from an area of over 1 million hectares during the week. Some 944,000 hectares were accounted for by Tselinograd's crop farmers. During the last 7 days they threshed almost one-third of the grain. Similar work results have been achieved by Kokchetav's crop farmers. During the same period Omsk oblast's farms gathered 36 percent of grain crops, and Kurgan and north Kazakhstan oblasts' grain growers gathered 34 percent each.

The pace is not, of course, important per se. Since this year grain crops in the east ripened later than usual, the pace also determines the qualitative aspect of work. The faster threshing and grain delivery to threshing floors and elevators proceed, the greater the opportunities for processing the grain better and bringing it up to top condition will be.

The last review raised in particular the question of the slow pace of harvesting in several east Siberian regions, which could result in crop losses. But no great improvements have taken place there in the course of the week Chita oblast's farms gathered grain crops from only 123,000 hectares, which brings the total area since the start of harvesting to 21 percent. And yet about 1 million hectares there have been sown to grain crops. How much time will the oblast spend on harvesting?

These facts are all the more annoying since harvesting as a whole is progressing quite well.

Grain procurement is proceeding in a well organized way on farms in Armenia, Lithuania, and Latvia, Mari Assr, and Volyn, Moscow, Tula, Rostov, and Zhitomir oblasts.

Tataria's grain growers have fulfilled the annual grain sales plan. Arskiy rayon's crop farmers had the honor of delivering the "jubilee" 1.55-millionth metric ton of grain. The rayon fulfilled the socialist pledges adopted in honor of the 27th CPSU Congress and delivered 90,000 metric tons of grain to the state. It has made the greatest contribution to the republic's success.

Feed procurement is continuing. USSR Ministry of Agriculture specialists note that quality is better than last year. The laying in of feed root crops has started. They constitute a good reserve for supplementing feed stocks.

And concern for next year's harvest is ever-present for the crop farmers. Winter crops have been sown on 22.7 million hectares. This work has already started on farms in Rostov oblast and the Ukraine's southern oblasts. Fall plowing of fallow lands has been completed on 33.1 million hectares. Last week's pace of fall plowing was faster than the preceding week's.

The crop farmers have many concerns today. But the main one is the grain. The speediest completion of grain harvesting and procurement is the most important task of local Soviets and the councils of agroindustrial associations.

CSO: 1824/033

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

IZVESTIYA REVIEWS MID-AUGUST HARVEST SITUATION

PM251619 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Aug 85 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": "Harvesting Process"]

[Excerpts] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by Monday 12 August grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) had been cut on 43.8 million hectares and threshed on 39 million hectares, which is 89 percent of the amount cut.

Sown and natural grasses had been cut on 72 million hectares or 85 percent of the area given over to this crop. Some 56.8 million metric tons of hay, 73 percent of the planned amount, had been procured, and the figures for other crops were haylage 63.3 million metric tons, straw 28.5 million metric tons, silage 24.4 million metric tons, and grass meal 4.9 million metric tons.

As specialists from the USSR Ministry of Agriculture say, the harvesting is proceeding well. The pace has picked up. During the last week grain was cut on 10.2 million hectares and threshed on 11.2 million hectares. If you look at the first lines of Central Statistical Administration data, you can see for yourself that the gap between threshing and cutting is small throughout the country. And this is evidence that the harvesting equipment is being utilized well. The grain reception centers and elevators are operating in closer coordination with farmers than in previous years. Incidentally, Azerbaijan, Moldavia, the entire Chernozem Zone of the RSFSR, and Dnepropetrovsk, Voroshilovgrad, and Chernigov Oblasts are conducting procurements well.

As in previous years, high-quality wheat is being sold by Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays and the Crimea. Now they have been joined by Rostov-Don, Northern Osetia, Kabardinc-Balkaria, Donetsk, and Dnepropetrovsk, which in previous years did not show particular concern for grain quality but more for gross output.

However, matters are not proceeding so well on all of our immense field area. The pace of work in the non-Chernozem Zone is still slow although the weather is good. Is the grain not ripe? Yet there are scientific methods to accelerate its ripening, even if the vegetative stage is long. And again: It is necessary to be fully ready for rapid work, especially with this year's complex harvesting conditions.

August... There are numerous jobs in the fields. Harvesting, feed procurement, preparation of the soil for next year's harvest, secondary sowings, winter sowing. Some 23.7 million hectares have been prepared for winter crops. They have been sown on 839,000 hectares, including 406,500 hectares in the non-Chernozem Zone.

And feed procurement is now very important. In this the country's farms have reached last year's level. But in order to reach a new level--and this is extremely essential--both quantity and quality are needed.

Secondary sowings for feed purposes are now also under way. Some 4.2 million hectares are given over to such crops. This is not very much as yet. The work must be stepped up, especially in those southern areas where there is the opportunity to obtain a guaranteed harvest.

It is already time to think seriously in the localities about preparing the shops and feed preparation facilities for winter. If they operate well this means a reduction in livestock units' expenditure per unit of output.

The harvesting process has picked up a rapid rhythm. But it is important here that soviets and rayon agroindustrial associations do not forget the end result. Not only the pace and quality of field work, but also to ensure that people obtain as many finished products as possible.

CSO: 1824/28

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

PAPER REPORTS HARVESTING, SOWING PROGRESS

PM131555 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 12 Sep 85 p 1

[N. Osychkin "Agricultural Review": "Shock Days of the Fall"]

[Excerpts] September has given a serious reminder that it is the first month of the fall. There are fewer and fewer fine days remaining, but there is still a lot of work to be done in the fields. Reaping and grain procurement are continuing, the harvest of vegetable and industrial crops is being gathered in, and farms are sowing winter crops, creating feed stocks, and carrying out other urgent agricultural jobs.

In the Altay, harvesting is being carried out on the third million hectares, and the first million metric tons of grain will soon count toward the pledges.

Last week harvesting was speeded up appreciably in Kurgan Oblast, where 140,000 hectares of wheat and barley are being windrowed every 24 hours. A significant increase in reaped areas has been achieved in the Bashkir ASSR and in Chelyabinsk and Omsk Oblasts. In all, grain crops in the RSFSR have been cut on 52.3 million hectares and threshed on 47.4 million. That is 72 percent of the sown area. Almost half the harvest is still standing on many farms in Kalinin, Novgorod, Tomsk, and Irkutsk Oblasts. The interval between reaping and threshing is still large on Novosibirsk and Kemerovo Oblast kolkhozes and sovkhoses, and in many places grain is being delivered to the state granaries only slowly.

Harvesting in Kazakhstan has reached its zenith. Grain crops there are being harvested on the 13th million hectares--the second half of the crop area.

Harvesting of corn for grain is under way in southern regions of the country. Ripe cobs have been taken from the first 363,000 hectares.

Work in the fields of goat and pulse crops needs to be speeded up. Certain farms are behind hand with threshing millet. In the Central Region peas have been harvested from only 62 percent of the crops, in the West Siberian Region from 63 percent, and in Volga-Vyatka Region

from 84 percent. Their marketability remains very low. Threshing of buckwheat is under way in East Kazakhstan, Semipalatinsk, and Pavlodar Oblasts, whose farms have pledged to overfulfill the plans for sales of grain of this crop to the state.

Fiber flax has been pulled on 688,000 hectares--68 percent of the crop. The front of the "white harvest" is getting wider and wider in Central Asia and Azerbai'an--458,000 metric tons of cotton have been procured. The harvesting of potatoes and vegetables and their dispatch to cities and industrial centers are continuing.

September is the decisive month in creating the foundations of the next harvest. Unfortunately, field work connected with this problem is lagging behind. Winter crops have been sown on 16.5 million hectares--41 percent of the plan.

It is now necessary to accelerate the preparation of the soil and seeds for spring sowing. Fall plowing has been carried out on 24.5 million hectares--less than by the end of the first 10-day period of September last year. This work is being carried out at an inadequate pace in the Ukraine, the Central Chernozem Zone, and the Volga Region. But time does not wait. The fall demands shock work in the fields.

CSO: 1824/033

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

RSFSR STATISTICAL ADMINISTRATION ON HARVEST

LD202152 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 20 Aug 85

[Text] The RSFSR Central Statistical Administration reported today that the republic's farms have reaped grain and pulse crops on almost 32 million hectares. This is slightly less than the entire area on which crops were sown. Nine-tenths of the reaped grain has been threshed. Collective and state farms in Western and Eastern Siberia have begun mass harvesting. In the European part of the republic machine operators in Archangel Oblast have begun the harvest. In southern regions the harvest of cereal crops has been completed. It is nearing completion in the oblasts of the Central Chernozem Zone. The harvest is in full swing in the Volga valley, the Urals and many oblasts of the non-Chernozem Zone.

Employees of the agro-industrial complex are paying special attention to the procurement of strong and valuable varieties of grain. Arable farmers in the Don region are setting a good example of this. They have already overfulfilled the plan for sales of strong wheat to the state by 80 percent. The overall total of procured grain includes a large amount of wheat in the highest class. Collective and state farms in areas which supply large amounts of grain like Volgograd, Saratov and Orenburg Oblasts are actively selling strong and valuable varieties of grain crops to the state.

While bringing in the harvest, collective and state farms are laying the foundations for next year's harvest. Mass sowing of winter crops is in progress. Winter crops have been sown on almost 3 million ha. Almost 5 million ha of underwinter fallow has been plowed in preparation for sowing in spring.

CSO: 1824/28

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

MOSCOW CARRIES CSA REPORT ON GRAIN, CORN HARVEST

LD212054 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 21 Aug 85

[Text] Harvesting and threshing of grain is being carried out in virtually all regions of the country. As we have already reported, the many-thousand strong detachment of machine operators of the virgin land oblasts of Kazakhstan have joined in the harvesting this week.

According to the USSR CSA, on 19 August, grain and pulse crops, excluding corn, had been cut on an area of 54 million hectares, while 93 percent of grain on this area had been threshed. Farms of the southern regions of the country are completing harvesting of grain, and here all their attention is concentrated on its sale to the state.

Grain is never easy, so it is the more vexing that the grain which has been cultivated should be subject to the danger of being spoiled. This is the situation which has come about in farms of Kherson, Nikolayev, Kirovograd, Sumy, Volgograd, Saratov and Kuybyshev Oblasts as well as of the Central Chernozem Region. Many collective and state farms here are being slow in dispatching high-quality grain to the granaries. The country's farms are continuing fodder procurement and the laying in of haylage.

CSO: 1824/28

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

RAINY WEATHER AFFECTS HARVEST IN AND AROUND MOLDAVIA

Pea, Grain, Leguminous Crops

Kishinyev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 10 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by N. Lavryukov]

[Excerpts] Faleshtskiy Rayon. It rained again. It was a light and tedious rain with a cold and piercing wind. Even for July, it's clearly autumn.

Andrey Ivanovich Kostyuk, combine operator at the Kolkhoz "Zarya Moldavii," vigorously clenched the steering wheel in his hands and, cursing the weather, continued working. In spite of having to rest at every meter, the mixed up mass of peas nevertheless crawled onto the harvesting conveyor and then tumbled out from it onto the floor in a massive formless swath.

At some time movement resumed, but the weather took its time. The rain-drenched stalks could no longer resist the knife and the stalk elevators piled up as the mass of material caused the conveyor to sink lower.

At the other edge of the field where the wind halted the planting of peas, in this unimaginable jumble where the combines could clearly do nothing, the kolkhoz workers, in spite of the poor weather, continued stubbornly to brandish their scythes, reaping the swaths manually.

There are more than 14,000 hectares of spiked grain and leguminous crops in the rayon. Despite the capriciousness of the weather, their fate causes no alarm because it is in reliable hands.

The harvest pace is picking up.

Harvesting Operations

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIA in Russian 11 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Ye. Tsorina: "Evaluating Labor"]

[Text] Which field should the combine operator select to work? Should it be where the grain crops stand as a wall or where the spikes fall to the ground by means of wind and heavy rains? The specialists of the republic's council of kolkhozes, using a proposed system of differentiated evaluation of machine operator labor, released them from the need to opt for the best possible arable land and sent them there where they are even more needed in an attempt to achieve high productivity of labor. Under current rainy summer conditions this will help to bring in the harvest more quickly and with the highest degree of quality.

The foundation of this system is a field's chart of technical and operational data. Using this and tariff rates, the production norm for every specified parcel can be adjusted. Therefore, the norm is less on an inclined land mass, which is more difficult to work, than on a plain. Corrections in calculations also come from other objective factors affecting farm equipment productivity: soil moisture content, field contours, machinery type, grain crop lodgeability and elevation. This maximally increases the responsibility of the accountant who now becomes a reliable control instrument for the labor activity of every person in the collective.

The experience of the foremost farms in the Chimishliyskiy, Drokiyevskiy, Brichanskiy and other rayons, which takes into account data recorded for the fields suitable for new harvesting tariffs, attests to their high rate of efficiency. An objective evaluation of machine operator labor expended contributes to improved production discipline. By controlling production norms, the tariffs alleviate double-entry bookkeeping for inter-kolkhoz mechanization associations with farms participating in this cooperative effort and help to improve economic ties.

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CSO: 1824/488

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

RAINS DELAY MOLDAVIAN SPRING PLANTING

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Apr 85 p 2

[Article by A. Romanov: "Planting Strategy"]

[Excerpts] A very unusual situation took place this year on the spring fields in Moldavia. The beginning of spring work was delayed by almost 20 days. Instead of the southern regions, where grain growers usually commence setting up their machinery and equipment, the current planting season began in the central and northern zones of the republic where the soil was ready earlier.

For planting early spring and summer crops, on just the kolkhozes and inter-kolkhoz associations, 500 complex mechanized work detachments worked in two shifts. Despite the cold and, at times, rainy weather, they succeeded with high quality and in the shortest period possible to plant early grain and leguminous crops, barley and sugar beets. They are completing the sowing of sunflowers and the transplanting of early vegetable seedlings in the earth.

Annually the republic's headquarters for carrying out the spring planting receives new information about the labor successes of the machine operators. The planting of fodder crops, vetch and fescue composites for grain, potatoes and vegetables is in full swing. The first reports have been received concerning the beginning of corn planting in the southern regions.

The first deputy chairman of the republic's council of kolkhozes, V. Grek, states, "The past winter caused many problems for farmers. This is especially true for the southern regions where a portion of the winter crops perished. Corn must be replanted. To accomplish this, the necessary amount of early-ripening hybrid seeds has been readied and nitrous and other fertilizers and herbicides have been shipped in. In all, the republic will have 3,660 planting machines working in two shifts employed in the planting of corn. Their daily productivity will, on the average, amount to 50 hectares. We calculate that corn planting in every region might be completed in six or seven work days!"

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CSO: 1824/488

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FROM 17 AUG-2 SEP

17-19 Aug

LD180610/LD200258 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 17-19 August. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

17 August

The corn is being cut in Kharkov Oblast. (0400 GMT)

Kursk Oblast: Grain has been threshed on 800,000 hectares to date. (0600 GMT)

In Orenburg Oblast 1 million hectares have been reaped. Sunny weather has replaced the rain in the southern Urals. Grains are now being threshed daily on an area of 140,000 hectares. (1100 GMT)

Vladimir Oblast farms have fulfilled the hay procurement: Almost 400,000 metric tons have been laid in. Haymaking continues. (1100 GMT)

Mass sowing of winter rye is taking place on farms in Kurgan Oblast. (2230 GMT)

18 August

The first 100,000 hectares of early grain crops have been reaped in Altay Kray. Large-scale threshing of peas is under way, and winter rye and barley are being gathered in. Early grains and feed grains occupy over 1 million hectares. (0800 GMT)

Sale of grain to the state has begun in Kurgan Oblast. Some 1,000 tons of winter rye and peas have been handed over to store. Farmers in Pavlodar Oblast have begun handing over grain. Recent rains have delayed the harvest. Machine operators are now taking advantage of every minute of good weather. The oblast aims to do its best to make good the shortfall in grain during previous years. (2230 GMT)

19 August

Sowing of winter rye in Tuva is an improvement on earlier years, thanks to the use of intensive technology and a new variety, the Kamilinskiy-13 which is frost resistant. Anti-erosion technology is widely in use. (0001 GMT)

A farm in Kurgan Oblast fulfilled its grain sales plan. Kostroma Oblast farms are sending vegetables straight to shops. (0400 GMT)

Winter crops are being sown in Kursk Oblast and Tuva. Over 40 million hectares are to be sown to winter crops in the country as a whole. (0600 GMT)

Machine operators in Gorkiy Oblast have begun sowing winter crops, which will occupy more than 500,000 hectares. Farmers in Kursk Oblast have prepared the soil for fall sowing on more than 500,000 hectares, on 200,000 hectares of which winter wheat will be cultivated by intensive technology. Farms in Kurgan Oblast have begun to sell grain to the state: thousands of tons of winter rye and peas have been delivered to storage areas. (0710 GMT)

Work has been accelerated over the past few days thanks to dry weather in most oblasts and the average daily output per combine is higher than last year. Bryansk, Orel, Ryazan, Saratov and a number of other oblasts are harvesting particularly well. Insufficient attention is being paid on many farms to the use of combine accessories for harvesting lodged and stunted crops. So far, the plan for production of strong and hard wheat has been half-fulfilled. Rostov Oblast has overfulfilled its plans for strong wheat sales to the state by 1.8 times. Orenburg Oblast is also producing good results in this area, but the situation is quite different in Belgorod, Voronezh, Tambov and Volgograd Oblasts, where grain crop sales to the state must be stepped up. (0800 GMT)

Handing over of the new harvest of grain crops to the state has started in the Pavlodar Oblast. Sowing of winter grain crops has been completed on a third of the total area in the Mari non-Chernozem Zone. (1000 GMT)

Farms in Kazakhstan's virgin lands are starting the harvesting of cereal crops today. The area sown to grain crops in the north of the republic amounts to almost 17 million hectares. (1030 GMT)

Work is proceeding on gathering in the harvest in Latvia. This year there was much flattening of grain crops by heavy rains and strong winds. Nevertheless, good work has been done and to date almost one-third of all the grain crops have been harvested. (1330 GMT)

In Issyk-Kul Oblast harvesting is in full swing; about 38 quintals per hectare is average yield. In Stavropol Kray there are reports of feed preparations from silage and hay as well as corn. All feed is grown on irrigated lands which means that at least three harvests a year are obtained. In the Mari non-Chernozem region winter grains are sown over one-third of area; autumn ploughing underway. (1800 GMT)

20-21 Aug

LD220140 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 20-21 August. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

20 August

Harvesting of corn for silage has started in southern Moldavia. Good weather has ripened it quickly, and making it into silage at this stage will increase its nutritional value. (0204 GMT)

Selective harvesting of spring crops began in Kazakh virgin lands. Saratov Oblast is harvesting wheat. Harvesting of corn for silage starts in Moldavia while feed is also being procured from remains of grain and vegetable harvesting. (0400 GMT)

In Kurgan Oblast half a million tons of hay have been procured. (0600 GMT)

Over 40,000 tons of grain was delivered to state granaries in Kuybyshev Oblast during the last 24 hours. Two-thirds of the grain crop total has been reaped to date in Tula Oblast where the weather is settled and sunny. Nine out of 12 rayons in Pavlodar Oblast are now harvesting. However, only 20 percent of the combines have been put to work at the moment. The reason for this is uneven ripening of grain and heavy August rains. Grain crops are to be harvested from almost 2 million hectares. The capricious weather is being countered by good organization, experience and moving equipment around a lot. Elevators and stores in Saratov Oblast are taking in 60-70,000 tons of grain every day. Deliveries of spring wheat, the main food crop in the Volga valley, have markedly increased. Harvesting of feed from corn stalks began in Balgorod Oblast. Conditions this year are difficult, but the harvest is good. The crop is to be cleared from over 300,000 hectares. The first consignment of truck-trailers was dispatched from Moscow today to help in the Altay Kray harvest. A group of maintenance men and mechanics from Moscow will also help with the harvest. Specialized farms in the Ukraine today began the harvest of sugar-beet seeds. The Ukraine has the country's most acreage of sugar-beet grown for seed. The area exceeds 40,000 hectares. The target for this season is about 600,000 quintals of single-shoot seeds. Sugar beet is the Ukraine's main industrial crop. A new canal in Karakalpakia runs from the Pakhtearna irrigation system, which was built during the first 5-year plans. It will increase the area on which cotton and rice are grown in Karakalpakia by 40,000 hectares. The first water was supplied to the field today. (1530 GMT)

Harvesting of grain has begun in the Kazakhstan virgin lands. The republican CSD reports that 4.5 million hectares of barley and wheat have been harvested in all on Kazakhstan's grain fields. (1904 GMT)

21 August

In Omsk Oblast harvesting of rye, peas and barley has started, and cutting of wheat will start soon. The yield is expected to be good. (0204 GMT)

A Kazkh farmer achieved a record thresh. Ryazan Oblast successfully began winter preparations. (0400 GMT)

In Turgay Oblast the first thousand tons of grain reached the grain reception enterprises. In Stavropol Kray harvesting of corn began today. The crop covers almost 130,000 hectares. This year, the plan is to sell 155,000 tons of corn to the state. (1530 GMT)

Orel Oblast has been named all-union socialist competition winner for overwintering of cattle and other feats in winter of 1984-5. This year more than 212,000 tons of milk have been sold to the state during the first 6 months, exceeding last year's level for that period by 11 percent. Harvesting of corn has begun in south Kirghiziya. (2230 GMT)

22-23 Aug

LD240305 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 22-23 August. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

22 August

Harvesting is in full swing in Kazakhstan. Cold, wet weather delayed ripening of the harvest in virgin lands, swift round-the-clock work is needed, but farmers are coping well. In Omsk Oblast the weather is cool, with almost constant rain, but Siberians are in bold spirits. A good grain harvest is expected, especially from the intensively cultivated area of 1.1 million hectares, almost all of which is wheat. In Saratov Oblast the cereal harvest is almost finished and millet harvesting, feed procurement and preparation of land for next year are now underway. Winter wheat sowing has started, but some enterprises in the oblast are failing to supply farms with planned quotas of mineral fertilizer. (1100 GMT)

The harvesting of grain corn has begun in southern Kirghizia. This year Kirghizian growers are planning to harvest no less than 340,000 tons of grain corn. In Altay Kray over 1.5 million tons of haylage has been put in store as well as three-quarters of the year's requirement for hay and a large amount of vitamin-supplemented grass meal. (1530 GMT)

In Kursk Oblast farmers have threshed grain crops on an area of 1 million hectares to date. Harvesting is coming to a close. Many farms have already begun sowing winter wheat which will be grown using intensive technology methods. Mass sowing of winter grain crops is underway at Kuybyshev Oblast

farms. More than 500,000 hectares will be taken up by high-yield varieties of wheat and rye, and this figure is about a third of all the oblast's grain sowing area. To date seeds have been planted on a half of the planned areas. (2230 GMT)

In Tyumen Oblast, 15 out of 22 rayons are selling rye to the state; so far 5,000 quintals have been sold, while the oblast target is 650,000 quintals. (2304 GMT)

23 August

Penza Oblast machine-operators are harvesting grain crops on the second million hectares today. To date, 500,000 tons of grain has been sold to the state in the oblast. (0204 GMT)

Kursk farmers have threshed grain on 1 million hectares. Sowing of winter wheat according to intensive technology has started on many farms. Massive sowing of winter crops is under way in the Kuybyshev Oblast; almost half of the total area of over 500,000 hectares is already sown with winter rye and wheat. (0400 GMT)

Grain crops are being cut on the 2nd millionth hectare in Bashkiria. Threshing of winter rye, barley and oats is being completed on many farms. Reaping and threshing of wheat has begun in southern oblasts. Some 2.8 million tons of grain are due to be delivered to the procurement points; over 600,000 tons has already arrived. (0430 GMT)

The first thousands of tons of raw cotton have reached procurement points in Turkmenia. Specialists say the harvest is a bumper one in all areas. About 10,000 cotton picking machines are supposed to work on the republic's farms this year. However, quite a few of them are still being repaired, even though many Turkmen farms have to make good the arrears in sale of cotton to the state since 1981, as well as meet their plan targets for 1985.

Another grain crop, millet, has begun reaching procurement points in Orenburg Oblast. Having completed the threshing of early grain crops, machine operators in southern rayons are now harvesting millet. (1100 GMT)

In Mordovia by today the winter crops have been sown on an area of more than 100,000 hectares. This is one-third of the whole area on which the winter crops will be sown. (1500 GMT)

In Tatar ASR grain has been threshed on the first million hectares--almost half the grain crop area. Reaping of spring wheat has begun.

Kirghizia today began laying in the fourth million tons of feed. Harvesting of the third crop of perennial grasses is nearing completion in the valleys, while the second alfalfa crop is being harvested in the highlands. Large-scale laying-in of silage from corn and sunflower has begun. (1530 GMT)

24 Aug

LD250403 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 24 August. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

By this morning, 100,000 metric tons of grain have been delivered to Kirghiz SSR grain-collection stations. All farms in the Talash and Osh oblasts and most farms of the Chu river valley have fulfilled their yearly plans of grain and pulse crops sales to the state. In the south of the republic, deliveries of corn have started. (0204 GMT)

In Tambov Oblast, 500,000 metric tons of grain have reached the procurement points. (0600 GMT)

Grain has been on 250,000 hectares in Omsk Oblast. (0600 GMT)

Grain has been cut on 1.5 million hectares in the Altay. (1100 GMT)

Omsk Oblast: Wheat harvest has begun; 1.1 million hectares are being cultivated with intensive technology. (1100 GMT)

Farmers of the Black Sea shore completed field preparations on 24 August for sowing winter wheat. The area where wheat will be cultivated according to intensive technology, comprises approximately 250,000 hectares, which is almost three times more than this season. (2300 GMT)

28-29 Aug

LD300338 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 28-29 August 1985. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

28 August

Farmers in Tambov Oblast have practically completed their year's plan for procurement of hay. About 300,000 tons have been stored for winter, which is nearly twice as much as by the start of September last year. (0600)

Kirghizia--100,000 hectares of cereal and grain are to be harvested. Harvesting has been made more difficult in Issyk-kul Oblast, due to rains. More than 200,000 tons of grain are to be sold to state this year. (1100)

Stavropol Kray--Harvesting of corn for grain crops began here today. (1100)

Latvia--Sowing of winter wheat and rye began here today. (1100)

Orlov Oblast--Mass sowing of winter crops has begun. (1100)

Kirghizia--The harvest has reached the highest areas in the republic. Grain has been repeated on 340,000 ha, or 72 percent of the sown area. Feed procurement is going on in valley rayons, with third and fourth cuttings of perennial grasses and pressing of straw under way. More than 3,200,000 tons of hay, haylage and straw has been laid in for the winter. This is 80 percent of the planned amount. The mass laying-in of silage is continuing, with about 600,000 tons, or 25 percent of the plan, already in. (1330)

Stavropol Kray has begun harvesting maize for seed grain. (1750)

Maritime Kray has begun harvesting corn for feed. The crop is sown on 107,000 ha, which is much more than last year. (1750)

29 August

Omsk Oblast--Grain has been cut on over 700,000 ha--one-third of the area. (0001)

Tajikistan--Winter grain harvest is in the final stages: 170,000 tons of grain has been threshed since the start of harvest. (0001)

To date 30 million ha of sown and natural grasses have been cut in Kazakhstan; 13 million tons of hay, 4.5 million tons of haylage and 220,000 tons of vitamin enriched grass meal have been laid in for public stockbreeding. Kustanay Oblast has done best in the socialist competition stakes. (0600)

Grain has been cut on 1 million ha in Altay--a quarter of the total grain area. (0800)

Harvesting is nearing completion in Mordovia. To date 90 percent of grain has been gathered in. The quantity of grain delivered so far is 230,000 tons. (1000)

Lithuanian elevators have been increased in volume to dry more grain. (1100)

Azerbaijan tea growers are carrying out the second harvest of leaves. (1100)

The laying-in of seed for winter cereals for the autumn sowing is complete. The volume laid in is 17 percent above plan. In the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Azerbaijan great care was taken by the state and collective farms in this matter. Regarding spring crop seed, the situation is not so good. Thus, the farms of Orel Oblast have fulfilled the plan for spring barley seed by 118 percent, while the figure for Tula Oblast is 79 percent and for Voronezh Oblast 31 percent so far. Not one republic so far has fulfilled the plan for bean crops seed. For autumn sowing this year farms over a wide area will use freshly harvested grain, particularly in the Non-Chernozem Region, Siberia and northern Caucasus. At the moment the seed stock is being treated with substances to increase its hardiness. (1300 GMT)

Kara-Kalpak ASSR--Rich harvesting has started. Around 100,000 ha have been allocated to rice in the autonomous republic. (1530)

Laying in seeds of winter crops for the autumn sowing in kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the country has been finished completely. The amount of them delivered by now to the state stores is by 17 percent more than planned. (2204)

31 Aug

LD010214 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 31 August. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

The 1 millionth ton of grain has been sold to the state by Kuybyshev Oblast to date. (0600)

Threshing of grain crops has been carried out on over 1 million hectares in the Tatar ASSR. (0700)

Grain has been harvested and threshed on one-third of Kazakhstan's 25 million ha of grain fields. (0800)

Alma-ata--The machine operators of Kazakhstan so far have cut and threshed bread grain on one-third of the area sown. All northern virgin land oblasts in the republic already are carrying out the mass gathering of bread grain. The mass sale of grain to the state has begun and grain experts at grain reception enterprises are rating wheat as high quality on the whole. (1000)

Altay has completed winter crop sowing--200,000 ha in all. For the first time in Altay, a considerable area has been sown to Chulpan winter rye. (1300)

Cotton picking began today in Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya Oblasts in Uzbekistan. (1300)

Kurgan Oblast--grain crops have been cut on one-fifth of the allotted area. The harvest, which was late in getting underway this year, is gathering pace with every passing day. After a couple of sunny days the rain has once again been falling in the Transurals, which makes field work difficult. (1530)

Corn from the new harvest has started going to elevators in Kherson Oblast. (1530)

The reaping of grain crops has started on the 2d millionth ha in Omsk Oblast. (2230)

1-2 Sep

LD030103 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 1-2 September. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

1 September

Altay: Bread grain is being harvested on the second million hectares. (1000)

Yakutiya has begun grain harvesting. (2004)

Maize harvesting has begun in north Ossetiya. (2004)

Mordovian farms have sold 250,000 tons of grain to the state. (2230)

Corn has reached the reception points and threshing floors of North Ossetian farms situated in the valleys of the River Terek. Mass harvesting of early-ripening varieties of corn seeds is being carried out on irrigated land, with a yield of up to 60 quintals per hectare. (2230)

2 September

Winter crop sowing has been carried out on 300,000 hectares in Kursk Oblast. (0001)

The state received its millionth tonne of grain from Tatar farmers today. (0204)

Grains have been harvested from 500,000 hectares in Pavlodar Oblast in Kazakhstan--one-quarter of the land sown to grain. (0204)

CSO: 1824/28

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER

BRIEFS

RAINY WEATHER IN MOLDAVIA--The workers on the Leninskiy Put Kolkhoz in Teleneshtskiy Rayon have mapped out their high socialist obligations in honor of the 27th CPSU Congress. In striving to make their contribution to implement the Food Program, they have obligated themselves this year to harvest 45 quintals of choice grain from each of the 430 hectares planted to winter wheat. The outlook is good. Much now depends on how the spiked grain harvest will be conducted. This is well understood by those who have to carry it out. Therefore, hardly had the sun appeared from behind the clouds when the machine operator detachments, supervised by A. Paraska, moved their combines to the fields. After lengthy and abundant rains, the fields were gray. The spiked grain crops were damp and at the moment when the harvest was to commence, it did not seem possible. But several hours passed and on various winter crop land parcels it became possible to begin harvesting. The combine operators were in place earlier for this purpose in order not to lose any time moving from one place to another. Having prepared well for the harvest, their intentions were to carry it out in 10 days. [Text] [Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 9 Jul 85 p 1] 8504

WINTER WHEAT HARVEST REPORT--Leovskiy Rayon. The machine operators in Leovskiy Rayon must harvest more than 6,000 hectares of winter wheat. [By V. Starik] [Excerpt] [Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 23 Jun 85 p 1] 8504

RAIN IN MOLDAVIAN STEPPES--Sorokskiy Rayon. In the steppes near Soroki fertile grain crops are ripening. The number of days before the harvesting are growing fewer. Grain crops on 25 farms in the rayon occupy 13,500 hectares. A highly productive use of equipment allows for no more than 10-12 days to cope with the grain harvest. We all know that there is no easy harvest. It is not by accident that people have taken to referring to it as a "harvest of drudgery." Everyone recognizes that harvest-85 will be an especially difficult one on the rayon's farms. The recent heavy rains and squalls lodged and entangled the stalks of spiked grain and leguminous crops on many fields, and undoubtedly complicated the harvest. This is why it is so important to greet the harvest fully equipped and be ready to battle the elements with careful preparation, good management and order. [Excerpt] [Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 22 Jun 85 pp 1-2] 8504

ANTI-HAIL MEASURES--Kishinev. The blazing rocket is sent aloft on command into a sky heavy with thunderclouds. And then a second one is sent, and then a third. By launching hundreds of rockets in Kalarashskiy, Ugnenskiy, Sorokskiy and Chadyr-Kungskiy rayons, specialists on the protection of arable agricultural lands can warn of the violence of thunderstorms. This work is the concern of a work collective of the Moldavian service on active reaction to hydrometeorological processes of the USSR State Committee on Hydrometeorology. This is the accumulated wealth of experience of more than 20 years in the republic to ward off the processes that form hail. Even though we are not always successful in completely excluding the possibility of hail "breaking through" the rocket shield, the economic effect is impressive: every ruble invested in hail prevention is paid back threefold in profits resulting from preserving the products of the fields, gardens, and kitchen-gardens. Currently the land area being protected by rockets exceeds two million hectares. There are 18 large anti-hail work detachments this year providing harvest protection. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 ay 85 p 4] 8504

PRE-HARVEST REPORT--Throughout Lazovskiy Rayon the current harvesting season requires reaping on more than 14,000 hectares of grain and leguminous crops. The obligations of the grain growers are impressive: To harvest on the average not less than 50 quintals of grain. The farms are taking all measures to ensure that under the current difficult weather conditions the harvest is a complete success. [By A. Naydenko and G. Patsanov] [Excerpt] [Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 7 Jul 85 p 1] 8504

INTENSIVE AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY--Kishinev. The use of intensive technology in cultivating winter wheat will make it possible to raise heavy ears of grain. This year this kind of technology is being applied on 50,000 hectares of arable fields. Currently pilots serving agricultural aviation are carrying out one of the most important operations--protecting the crops from pests and disease. [Excerpt] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Jun 85 p 1] 8504

INCESSANT RAINS--Kriulyanskiy Rayon. The current harvest is a cause of great concern to the rayon's grain growers. Even though they met it fully prepared, they have not been successful in developing it on a wide front. They had hardly moved their machines to the fields when they had to silence their motors. However, bad weather and incessant rains do not cool down or enervate the equipment operators. On the contrary, they are constantly prepared and make maximum use of even the slightest opportunity to harvest the grain. The rayon has organized 19 harvesting detachments, each of which has a maintenance crew. [Excerpt] [Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 11 Jul 85 p 2] 8504

HARVEST PROGRESS--Kotovskiy Rayon. At the press center for harvest-85, organized for the harvest period at the 40 Let Oktyabrya Kolkhoz, the latest news is in from the fields. The harvest front is expanding daily. At the same time, the farm is reaping barley and peas. Even winter wheat has ripened on various fields. [Excerpt] [Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 14 Jul 85 p 1] 8504

AGRICULTURE REPORT--The country's farms are continuing laying in fodder. Sown and natural grasses have been reaped for the first cut from an area of more than 76 million hectares. A total of 66.6 million metric tonnes of hay has been laid in, which is 79 percent of the plan. Haylage continues to be laid in: supplies exceed 67 million metric tonnes--this is 107 percent of the plan. Harvesting of grain crops is ending in the southern parts of the country. All attention is now being concentrated on its sale to the state. According to statistics for mid-August farms in Georgia, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan had fulfilled the plan for laying in wheat in the granaries. Collective and state farms in the northern Caucasus and Dnepropetrovsk and Dzhabul Oblasts are rapidly sending off to collection points, strong and valuable varieties of wheat. [caption reads "USSR CSA Reports"] [Text] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 21 Aug 85]

GRAIN HARVESTING PROGRESS--Kazakhstan machine operators have thus far harvested grain on an area of 6.67 million hectares. The republican Central Statistical Administration also notes that all oblasts in northern Kazakhstan have already started mass harvesting of eared grain crops. In the last week alone, grain has been cleared from an area of more than 2 million hectares. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 27 Aug 85]

HARVESTING REPORT--We have received a USSR Central Statistical Administration report. It says that by 26 August grain and pulse crops, excluding maize, had been reaped on 63.6 million hectares. This is 57 percent of the total sown area. They have been threshed on 58 million hectares, which is 91 percent of the reaped area. Farms in southern oblasts of the Ukraine, Kazakhstan and the Central Asian republics have begun harvesting grain maize. Selective picking of cotton has begun in Azerbaijan. As well as bringing in the harvet, arable farmers are laying the foundations for next year's harvest. The vegetable season and fruit procurement are in full swing. The grapes harvest is beginning. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 28 Aug 85]

CSO: 1824/28

LIVESTOCK FEED PROCUREMENT

FEED HARVEST PROGRESS REVIEW NOTES PROBLEMS

PM170830 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Sep 85 p 1

[Animal technician M. Glinka "Agricultural Review": "The Stock Unit's Strength Lies in the Feed"]

[Text] As of 9 September, procurements amounted to 70 million metric tons of hay, 73 million metric tons of haylage, and about 67 million metric tons of straw, chaff, and other threshing-floor feed; 111 million metric tons of silage and 6 million metric tons of artificially dehydrated green feeds had been produced.

Feed procurement is perhaps the most time-consuming field work in the countryside. While soil preparation, sowing, field cultivation, and harvesting can be measured in days or weeks, the accumulation of feed requires many months of strenuous work. "Don't leave the field or meadow before the daily norm is fulfilled"--this is the work slogan of machine operators in grain harvesting today. "Don't leave the field or meadow until everything that has been grown has been harvested"--this is the slogan of front-ranking feed producers.

Much still remains to be gathered. There still remain natural and sown grasses, silage crops, and root and tuber crops. The fall fields yield various waste from industrial, vegetable, and food crops--good raw material to supplement the reserves of silage, vitamin meal, and coarse feeds. How are these sources of nutrients utilized? Here is the answer supplied by USSR Central Statistical Administration data (in quintals of feed units per head of livestock):

	Procured in Total	Procured in Week under Review
RSFSR	11.31	1.04
Ukraine	10.00	1.17
Belorussia	12.13	0.65
Uzbekistan	11.16	0.64
Kazakhstan	9.98	1.30

[Table continued on following page]

	Procured in Total	Procured in Week under Review
Georgia	9.45	0.57
Azerbaijan	13.43	0.29
Lithuania	14.90	0.49
Moldavia	9.22	0.35
Latvia	12.13	0.54
Kirghizia	10.85	0.92
Tajikistan	10.58	0.35
Armenia	11.84	0.54
Turkmenia	11.26	0.78
Estonia	11.58	1.01

What is striking is the unpleasant fact that the feed procurement pace has slowed down markedly in many regions. For example, during the week under review Belorussian's farms increased their reserves (per head of livestock) by only 65 feed units, while the quantity laid in the previous 7 days exceeded 1 quintal. Daily feed procurement volumes have fallen in all oblasts except Gomel. If work in the feed fields today were progressing as fast as 2 weeks ago, the republic would have already fulfilled the plan for succulent and coarse feed procurement. Meanwhile dozens of haylage towers are standing empty, and numerous silage trenches are still to be filled.

Among the Baltic Republics, only Estonia has maintained the due pace in feed procurement: In the last few days this republic's crop farmers have even stepped up their pace of work. Its neighbors' feed yards contain less feed than at this time last year, and many reserves still remain unutilized. For example, Latvian farms have fulfilled only 79 percent, and Lithuanian farms only 74 percent, of the plan for laying in silage.

In Central Asia, Turkmenia's kolkhozes and sovkhoses are continuing to supplement their feed reserves at a fast pace, and indeed they are closest of all to the fulfillment of their plans. Nor have Kirghizia's feed producers slackened their efforts. During the last week in August and the first week in September they laid in more feed than in any corresponding period since the start of procurement. Many of the mountain republic's rayons have already laid in sufficient coarse feeds, while Kalininskiy, Keminskiy, and Moskovskiy rayons have also laid in sufficient succulent feeds, to meet their annual requirements, and they are continuing to build up their reserves. Osh oblast's farms--initiators of the competition to lay in 18-months' feed reserves--have pledged to perform at least 5 mowings of perennial grasses and produce 100 quintals per hectare, while crop farmers from Leninskiy, Bazar-Kurganskiy, Aravonskiy, and Ala-Bukinskiy Rayons have pledged to produce 130 quintals per hectare. And this complex task is being successfully resolved.

A different state of affairs prevails on farms in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, where the already slow pace of increase in feed reserves was reduced even further during the week under review. And yet they have laid in only 65 and

74 percent respectively of the planned hay quantity, and 48 and 49 percent respectively of silage. This lag is intolerable!

The pace of feed procurement in the Transcaucasus is slowing down in all three republics. A particularly alarming situation has developed on Georgia's farms, which have fulfilled their coarse and succulent feed procurement plans only 63 percent, and their silage plans only 36 percent. Only 38 percent of the planned volume of this feed has been produced in Azerbaijan, and only 48 percent in Armenia.

The situation is far from uniform in the feed yards of RSFSR kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Nor is this surprising in view of its vast territory. But the point is not just weather or climatic differences. Farms in one and the same zone, working under similar conditions, often produce totally different results. In the central region, for example, Kaluga Oblast's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have already overfulfilled the plans for laying in coarse and succulent feeds, and Vladimir, Kostroma, and Yaroslavl Oblasts are not far behind, but Moscow Oblast has met this target only 71 percent. So it is all the more puzzling that the work pace in the feed fields there has slackened and the Moscow region's pace is one of the slowest.

We will list those who, during the week under review, achieved the highest growth in building up reserves of coarse and succulent feeds in their regions (the figure in parentheses indicates the quantity of feed laid in during the 7-day period in terms of quintals of feed units per standard head). In the northern region--the Karelian ASSR (0.7); northwest region--Leningrad Oblast (0.7); central region--Orel Oblast (1.1); Volga-Vyatka Region--the Chuvash ASSR (1.6); Central Chernozem Region--Belgorod Oblast (2.7); Volga Region--Ulyanovsk Oblast (2); northern Caucasus--Krasnodar Kray (2); Urals Region--the Bashkir ASSR (1.9); West Siberia--Altay Kray (1.3); East Siberia--Chita Oblast (1.3); and in the far east region--Khabarovsk Kray (2.7). And here is a list of those occupying last places: Pskov Oblast (0.3), Kalmyk ASSR (0.3), Dagestan ASSR (0.3), Chelyabinsk Oblast (0.4), Kemerovo and Novosibirsk Oblasts (0.1), and Krasnoyarsk Kray (0.4).

The pace of feed procurement is picking up on farms in the Ukraine and Kazakhstan. In the Ukraine this work is being performed particularly fast in Volyn, Voroshilovgrad, Zhitomir, Kirovograd, Rovno, Cherkassy, and Chernigov Oblasts. Crop farmers in Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Kharkov Oblasts are lagging behind. Above-plan procurement of hay and haylage in Kazakhstan has been registered by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kustanay, north Kazakhstan, Mangyshlak, and Tselinograd Oblasts. The smallest quantity of feed per standard head of livestock has been procured in Guryev, Kzyl-orda, and Mangyshlak Oblasts.

An alarming situation has developed on Moldavia's farms, where only 9.22 quintals of feed units of coarse and succulent feeds per standard head have been laid in--just 44 percent of the planned quantity.

The need to resolutely introduce intensive methods of production in stock raising and enhance the productivity of all types of livestock was emphasized yet again at the recent Tselinograd conference of the party-economic aktiv. In order to accomplish this task it is necessary to increase in every way the reserves of full-value feeds.

LIVESTOCK

COMMENTARY ON HALF YEAR LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION TOTALS

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 Jul 85 p 3

[Article by M. Aratov: "Using Farm Reserves: Agricultural Survey"]

[Text] Now that the last year of the five-year plan has entered its decisive phase and farm workers are searching for every possible way to complete it successfully, it is important to sum up the past period. What kinds of results have been achieved by kolkhoz and sovkhoz livestock breeders in the All-Union Socialist Competition for increasing production and the sale of meat, milk and other of the sector's products to the state?

The sale of meat in the first half year exceeded the corresponding indicator of the first half of last year by 360 tons, or 4 percent, while the purchase of it increased by 318 tons (also 4 percent). Agricultural enterprises in the majority of the union republics increased their production and sale of livestock and poultry. Only farms in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan showed a drop in sales for these products, by 11 and 2 percent respectively, and as a result did not fulfil the half year plans for sales in this area.

The highest growth in livestock and poultry sales was achieved by farm workers in Kirghizia (14 percent), Belorussia (11), Latvia (10) and Moldavia (9 percent). In the Russian Federation, meat production farm workers from Komi and Buryat autonomous republics, Khabarovsk Kray, and Ivanovo, Belgorod, Kursk, Volgograd, Omsk and Tomsk oblasts were ahead. At the same time, agricultural enterprises of Krasnoyarsk Kray, and Kalinin, Rostov and Kemerovo oblasts dropped in cattle sales, while those in Kirov, Voronezh and Penza oblasts dropped in their sales of pigs.

It makes quite a difference by what means a farm's sale of meat in one or another region is increased -- whether large numbers of underfed livestock are turned over to combines or their delivery weight is increased. Understandably, the second means, indicating intensive production and requiring considerably fewer expenditures, is more desirable. The heaviest cattle -- with an average weight of 451 kilograms -- was sold by Estonian farms. Animals weighing 414-439 kilograms were sent to meat-packing plants from farms and complexes of Belorussia, Lithuania, Moldavia and Latvia. The live weight of livestock sent to slaughter was lower in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan. The lowest-weight livestock (with an average weight

of 264 kilograms) was sold by livestock breeders in Georgia. The average weight of pigs sent to slaughter in the first half year was a little higher in the majority of union republics.

On the whole, the sale of young fattened cattle (for which markups on the buying price are paid) increased by 5 percent throughout the country. Compared with last year, the sale of such young cattle increased in Lithuania and Belorussia by 20-38 percent and in Moldavia and Latvia by 17-18 percent. The purchase of heavy bulls dropped considerably in Uzbekistan and Georgia. The proportion of heavy young cattle in general cattle buying makes up 37 percent now -- this is as much as it was a year ago. The lowest proportion of all is in Georgia (13 percent), Azerbaijan (19) and Kirghizia (22 percent).

Milk production increased in the agricultural enterprises of all republics, except for the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Kirghizia and Tajikistan. On the whole, 85 thousand more tons of milk were produced than in the first six months of last year throughout the country. And this addition was achieved as a result of the increase (from 1,244 to 1,251 kilograms) in milk yield.

The highest increases in milk production were achieved by farm workers in Belorussia, Georgia, Moldavia and Latvia, where gross yields increased by 6-8 percent. The highest yield, 2,046 kilograms per cow -- which is 74 percent greater than last year, was attained on the dairy farms of Estonia. The Baltic republic is moving with confidence toward the 400-thousand mark on milk yield. In June, 402 kilograms of milk per cow was produced -- 15 kilograms more than in the same month last year. And although the republic's dairy herd decreased a little during this time, milk production increased by 13 thousand tons, or by 3 percent.

One of the lowest yields -- 971 kilograms of milk per cow for 6 months and 196 kilograms for June -- was received on Uzbekistan farms. The number of cows here grew, but because of a sharp fall in their productivity (by 21 percent), the gross production of milk fell by almost 78 thousand tons, or 17 percent. This is a good illustration in favor of the intensive methods of developing dairy breeding, and a serious warning to those who continue to prefer the extensive methods.

A similar picture can be observed in the Russian Federation -- those farms that are striving first and foremost to increase the productivity of the dairy herd are increasing milk production with confidence. The highest growth in gross yield in the republic -- by nearly 11 percent -- was achieved by dairy farm workers of Orel Oblast. Here, cow productivity for the year increased from 1,036 to 1,156 kilograms, or by 11.6 percent. While in Smolensk Oblast, located in the same Central Region, both cow productivity and milk production were down.

In the competition among milkers of the Russian Federation, first place is held by Murmansk dairy maids who each obtained 2,034 kilograms of milk per cow during the last 6 months. Good results, 1,864 kilograms of milk each, were achieved in Karelian ASSR where Kholmogorskiy, Ayrshire and Black Spotted livestock are raised. In Leningrad and Moscow oblasts a large part of the

dairy herd is made up of Black Spotted and Holstein-Friesian stock. The average yields here amounted to 1,776 and 1,698 kilograms, respectively. Also to be noted are the achievements of dairy farm workers of the Kuban who each obtained 1,560 kilograms of milk per cow, which is a little over five percent more than in the first half year of last year.

Marketability of milk products is growing in proportion with the increase in the dairy herd's productivity. It is not surprising that farms which have gone over to intensification of livestock breeding are successfully fulfilling and over-fulfilling their plans for selling milk to the state. On the whole, 33.3 million tons of milk were bought during the first half year throughout the country -- 1 percent more than during the same period last year.

The experience of republics, krays and oblasts which have firmly increased their output of livestock products, suggests the fastest route for advancing the sector. It is not new: a consistent tightening up of the lagging farms until they reach the level of the leading ones. Let us recall that in Estonia, where right now the most highly productive herd in the country is concentrated, they have been creating their results in exactly this way. At the beginning here they began checking all farms with a cow yield of less than 2,000 kilograms and raised them to the next level. When this limit was reached, the turn came for farms with a herd productivity of 2,500 kilograms.

The enormous potential here is shown by this example: farms that did not fulfil their plans for selling farm products in the first half year were lacking in production by more than 3 million tons of milk, or 13 percent of what was planned, and a half million tons of livestock and poultry (26 percent).

In the competition of farm workers, a more and more predominant place is occupied by the struggle not only to increase the output of products, but also for higher quality indicators -- a growth in yields and additional weight, a lowering of costs for labor, feed and resources. Kolkhozes, sovkhoses and inter-farm enterprises are striving to get as much milk and meat as possible from feed of their own production, primarily succulent and coarse feed; it is this that will enable them to get a higher production from every hectare of land. The portion of grain concentrates in the rations of milk cattle has lowered from 26-30 percent to 23 percent in the last 5 years, while in beef production it has lowered from 25-28 percent to 22 percent. Livestock are given fewer concentrates and more products are received.

12962

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PASKAR ADDRESSES APK COMMISSION ON 1986 PLAN

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 3 Sep 85 p 3

[TASS Report: "Session of the Agro-Industrial Commission]

[Text] At a 2 September meeting of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Commission on Questions Concerning the Agro-Industrial Complex, P.A. Paskar, first deputy chairman, Gosplan USSR, delivered a report on the draft State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986 with respect to the agro-industrial complex [APK].

It was noted that the indicators envisaged in the draft plan for the development of agriculture, the food and fishing industries, and other APK branches, basically correspond to the tasks outlined in the draft of the Basic Directions for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for the years 1986-1990.

Special attention was given to increasing the growth rates for production and for improving the quality of the products on the basis of intensification and acceleration of scientific-technical progress; rational use of raw materials, physical and labor resources; reduction of losses; and the direction of capital investments toward key problems in the development of the branches, and above all toward reconstruction of the enterprises and replacement of obsolete equipment. It is planned to significantly expand the cultivation of grain and other agricultural crops through intensive technology.

Proceeding from the principles laid down at the CPSU CC meeting on questions of developing plans for the economic and social development of the USSR for 1986 and the 12th Five-Year Plan, and from the decisions of the CPSU CC Politburo on the given question, Gosplan USSR, the ministries and departments, and the union republic Councils of Ministers have been given the assignment to continue working on the draft plan for 1986 with respect to the agro-industrial complex, and to work out a set of measures which will guarantee unconditional fulfillment of the plan.

During the session the commission discussed a report by Chairman of the the Commission of the Presidium of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers on Questions of the Agro-Industrial Complex, E.P. Kalinik, who spoke on the work being carried on for improving the organization of land-reclamation construction and increasing the effectiveness of use of irrigated lands.

It was emphasized that the water management and agricultural organizations of the Moldavian SSR did not ensure fulfillment of tasks for putting reclaimed lands into use and for producing the basic kinds of horticultural products on the irrigated areas. Work in the republic is proceeding poorly with respect to developing and strengthening the production base of the water management organizations; training land reclamation cadres and workers with common skills; and, introducing on a wide scale advanced forms of labor organization. Significant areas of reclaimed lands require qualitative improvement.

The Commission of the Presidium of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers on Questions of the Agro-Industrial Complex has given instructions to take additional measures to fulfill the plan for capital construction and to put into operation those projects starting to operate in the current year; to speed up the reconstruction of the irrigation systems and to provide them with more water; and, to ensure highly-effective use of all irrigated lands in the republic.

The commission gave its approval in general to the proposals presented by Gosplan USSR in cooperation with interested ministries and departments, and union republic Councils of Ministers, on expanding the use of liquid mineral fertilizers in agriculture in the 12th Five-Year Plan. Measures were envisaged for increasing deliveries of such fertilizers to the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Tasks were outlined for the ministry producing mineral fertilizers to improve their storage; and for the councils of ministers of certain union republics for building and putting into operation improved storage facilities adjacent to the rail lines.

The Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, Ministry of the Automotive Industry, Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, and the Ministry of the Chemical Industry have been commissioned to produce and deliver machinery and equipment to agriculture for transporting and for applying complex liquid fertilizers and liquid ammonia to the soil. Measures have also been determined for increasing the effectiveness of their use.

At the session the commission also examined the proposals offered by Gosplan USSR for expanding production and increasing the agricultural use of chemical preservatives for cattle feed for the years 1986-1990. Implementing the measures outlined will permit the kolkhozes and sovkhozes to increase the quality of stored cattle feed and to reduce losses.

9006
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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

NEED TO DEVELOP INITIATIVE IN FARMING

PM250844 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Sep 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Enterprising Work Needed"]

[Text] Our party sees the creation of a reliable food base as a task for the whole party and the whole people and its resolution as urgent and requiring special attention. When the food program was adopted, the CPSU Central Committee launched work to implement it in all directions. The agroindustrial complex management system is being improved, its equipment level is being strengthened, in-depth modernization of agricultural machine building is under way, and the large-scale social transformation of the countryside is being carried out.

The party and economic aktiv conference held the other day in Tselinograd noted that a great deal has been done since the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) plenum, which adopted a number of major decisions on the problems of the agroindustrial complex. The overall volume of the country's agricultural production in 1983-1984 increased by r22 billion, or 9 percent, in comparison with the previous 2 years. Grain, potato, sugar beet, vegetable, and fruit harvests have grown and average annual production of meat, milk, and eggs has increased. Over these years the number of loss-making farms has fallen and the level of sector profitability has increased. This has also affected the per capita consumption of foodstuffs. And yet the problem of their supply to the population has not yet been fully resolved.

It is quite clear, M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed in his speech at the Tselinograd conference, that the main direction in solving the food problem is constant work by the party and the entire people to further develop agriculture and the agroindustrial complex as a whole... The answer to the question of how to make this work more efficient is provided by the decisions of the April plenum, the materials of the CPSU Central Committee conference on the problems of scientific and technical progress, and other party documents. It is necessary to persistently and consistently implement the ideas, resolutions, and conclusions set forth in these documents. Enterprising work is needed in the country's agricultural sector. This concerns all cadres--party, Soviet, economic, and trade union.

Working in an enterprising way means first and foremost approaching matters creatively and with the desire and ability to think and work in a new way, to

reveal reserves, and to utilize them to increase production efficiency. Whether an initiative is large or small, when it is of advantage to the common cause it awakens new creative forces and opens up new possibilities. Take, for instance, the experiments being carried out in a number of republics to improve the running of the agroindustrial complex. It is as if they have pushed back the horizon and opened up new prospects by showing real ways of intensively developing all agroindustrial complex sectors.

A number of RSFSR oblasts--Vologda, Kuybyshev, Orel, Kurgan, Novosibirsk, and Tomsk--and Stavropol and Altay krais have now initiated experiments to expand economic autonomy [samostoyatel'nost'], to switch enterprises to self-funding [samookupayemost'], and to improve the entire system of agroindustrial management.

Scientists from eastern regions of Russia and the USSR Academy of Sciences displayed valuable initiative in elaborating the comprehensive "Siberia" program, which is already being implemented. How many good and useful initiatives are constantly being born in kolkhozes, sovkhoses, and teams.

There are several sovkhoses in Leningrad's "Nevskoye" association and each one contributes something of its own and something new and needed by all to the store of experience. The "Pashkiy" sovkhos has launched the largest production line in Russia for fattening young livestock. At the same time they raise up to 28,000 steers here and bring them into the highest weight condition. The "Dzhatiyev" and "Volna" sovkhoses have been waging a struggle for the full utilization of reserves. Their example has been followed by many farms. The initiators' work is proceeding successfully. At "Dzhatiyev"--the older enterprise--a high rhythm has been achieved through modernizing stockyards. These have been turned into mechanized shops. Their experience has been taken into account at "Volna," which a year previously reached the planned capacity of the meat complex. And on the whole the "Nevskoye" association has completed the 5-year plan for beef production ahead of schedule.

That is the real weight of initiative and inexhaustible energy, and how important it is to save this living spring and its potential charge and to augment its potency.

Now that the work to implement the measures worked out by the party is under way in all directions it is important not just to achieve an increase in the creative activeness of collectives. Party organizations and leaders of all components are called upon to be able to direct initiative. After all, we know of many cases when a loudly trumpeted initiative turns into a slogan, a hollow appeal not backed up by any real deeds or results. There are overtones of formalism here. This often hinders and even obstructs kolkhozes and sovkhoses from making progress. In the 2 years since the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) plenum, production capital in Kurgan oblast has increased by almost 13 percent yet gross output has dropped by almost the same amount. How can this be explained? After all, there was more than enough capital investment. It can only be explained by one thing: the poor activity of leading cadres.

Initiative does not tolerate generalities and empty words. It presupposes freshness of thought, innovation, and specific action and effective action.

For instance, in switching to new progressive grain cultivation techniques many collectives have achieved high indicators. This year around 17 million hectares of wheat and virtually all grain corn in the country are being cultivated using new techniques. Thanks to this farms are obtaining up to 40-50 quintals of wheat per hectare, almost twice as much as with ordinary techniques. Unfortunately, there are hundreds of farms where the expected results have not been achieved even with full supplies of fertilizers, herbicides, and equipment.

We are sometimes surprised: why should it be so? A collective has achieved remarkable (and not accidental) results and yet the plan and pledges reflect no progress. It is as if there has been a step backward. All this comes from playing safe and not trusting the creative forces of a collective and its active potential. And where does this lack of faith come from? Obviously, leaders know little about their collectives and their potential and sentiments. When it is a question of enterprising work, we cannot take simply material and financial factors into account. Often moral factors play the decisive role. There are around 600 cows in the dairy complex at the horse breeding institute's experimental farm in Ryazan oblast. Their productivity is quite high--almost 5 metric tons of milk per animal. The introduction of the nonregulated system has increased people's activeness and initiative. And the same herd has started producing 300-350 metric tons more milk. Other collectives in the same oblast have quite different, lower results.

In order to actively support a useful initiative it is necessary not only to explain its value and agitate for it but to struggle for its widespread dissemination and the development of the initiative. Mismanagement and disorganization often curb the creative urge. That is why party organizations are called upon to struggle resolutely against such shortcomings. Unfortunately, such shortcomings exist on many farms. There are many failings in rayons in Penza oblast. Mokshanskiy, Kolyshleyskiy, and Lopatinskiy party raykoms, for instance, devote insufficient attention to the growth of stockmen's labor productivity, which remains low despite high expenditure.

In the 12th 5-Year Plan all components of the agroindustrial complex must resolve more major tasks. And each collective must clearly and precisely determine how and by what means they are to be resolved and which path to take in order to scale new heights. It is obvious even now that not everyone takes into account factors such as initiative and labor enthusiasm. Certain leaders, as was stressed at the Tselinograd conference, pin their main hopes on obtaining additional capital investment and other resources. But the introduction of progressive techniques, scientifically substantiated crop farming systems, and intensive methods in stockraising depend to a considerable extent on strengthening discipline and high organization.

Great tasks require great energy. This energy is augmented by people's professional skills, their experience, and their spirit of creativity and innovation. Our party's Central Committee attaches exceptional importance to these factors. May they be seen even more clearly in the competition in honor of the 27th CPSU Congress.

AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

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INTERFARM ENTERPRISE PROBLEMS IN POULTRY PRODUCTION AIRED

Moscow EKONOMIKA SELSKOGO KHOZYAYSTVA in Russian No 8, Aug 85 pp 53-57

[Article by M. Aleksandrova, VNIESKh [All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Agricultural Economics] scientific associate: "Resources and Problems of Inter-farm Poultry Farming Enterprises"]

[Text] Poultry farming is one of the sectors of animal husbandry in which industrial production methods have obtained the greatest development. The share of output of State poultry factories in the total production volume of poultry farm products in the public sector reaches 80 percent, and it reaches 86 percent in the total volume of its unfinished products. The problem of supplying large cities and industrial centers with eggs for food was essentially solved by virtue of these enterprises, and supplying them with poultry meat has improved considerably. In comparison with 1965, the level of guaranteeing eggs and poultry meat has doubled on the average across the country. Nevertheless, the further development of poultry farming at kolkhozes and sovkhoses remains an urgent problem. This is due to the fact that the needs of the country's population for poultry farm products are not being satisfied in full measure for the time being and, in addition, with the great dispersal of the rural population it's impossible to supply its demand for them just by virtue of State poultry factories that are being placed near industrial centers and large cities. And in almost all the regions there is also a considerable amount of resources for the development of poultry farming at farms with the use of local fodder and manpower resources.

The progressive way for the development of poultry farming at kolkhozes and sovkhoses is the concentration and specialization of production on the basis of interfarm cooperation, one of the organizational forms of which is an interfarm enterprise (MKhP). As a rule, poultry farming formations like these are created with the participation of all farms in a rayon on the basis of existing poultry farms and hatcheries. Their basic task consists of fulfilling plans established for kolkhozes and sovkhoses for selling poultry farm products to the state; as well as supplying these products to the population and public catering enterprises. Not having small poultry farms in each of them, a method like this opens the possibility of the participation of all farms in the production of poultry farm output. The kolkhozes and sovkhoses of a rayon participate co-operatively with proportionate payments and fodder resources to the extent of their needs for poultry farm output. First of all, an advantage of interfarm

cooperation consists of the fact that it's possible on the basis of it to create poultry farm enterprises of optimum sizes with the introduction of separate components of an industrial manufacturing method when extending the division of labor.

At the present time, nearly 200 poultry farm MKhP's for the production of final products are operating in our country. The greatest experience has been accumulated in the Ukrainian SSR where the overwhelming majority of them is concentrated.

The experience of Zaporozhe Oblast in which MKhP's have been created in 15 of the available 18 rayons deserves attention. The production trend of a majority of interfarm enterprises is mixed. From 30,000 to 100,000 commercial laying hens and up to 1 million head of broilers per year are kept at MKhP's like these.

During the 1976-1983 period, the laying hen population as a whole for interfarm enterprises of the oblast increased by a factor of 2.4 and egg production by a factor of almost 4, the cost of 1,000 eggs dropped from 65.7 to 58.8 rubles, the profitability level for basic production increased from 42 to 52 percent, and profit grew from 1.6 million to 5 million rubles or by a factor of more than 3.

The successful operations of MKhP's exerted a noticeable influence on an increase in production of poultry farm output as a whole around the oblast. During the 1981-1983 period in comparison with 1973-1975, the average annual production of eggs at kolkhozes, sovkhoses and MKhP's increased by 19.2 percent and poultry meat by 11.5 percent; moreover, the entire increase was provided exclusively by virtue of MKhP operations. Production grew at especially rapid rates in rayons where advanced MKhP's are operating and where egg production during the period of time that is being compared increased by 49.5 percent and poultry meat by 53 percent.

At the present time, MKhP's of the oblast have large potential resources at their disposal for increasing production output, but they're using them by no means completely. This is due to many reasons and, first of all, to substantial shortcomings in the area of economic relationships. We'll examine the basic ones of them in the example of an advanced MKhP, which was created in 1977 in Kuybyshevskiy Rayon, for the production of eggs and broiler meat. The initial rate of the statutory fund for it was determined at 3,901,000 rubles, of which the value of poultry farms that were transferred to MKhP's by the "Rossiya," "Druzhba" and "Avangard" kolkhozes accounted for 3.67 million rubles. Proportionate payments of the remaining 15 kolkhozes were pooled from monetary assets paid in over a long period of time in small portions (up to 5,000 rubles); moreover, 5 farms essentially didn't participate proportionately in forming the statutory fund. As a result, even for the first year of MKhP operations, its initial statutory fund was provided through monetary payments by only 36 percent, and individual kolkhozes differed considerably in the degree of proportionate participation. Nevertheless, the profit was distributed among all the kolkhozes, including also those whose proportionate participation was completely formed on equal grounds by virtue of MKhP profits. During the 1978-1983 period, calculations showed that the "Rossiya," "Druzhba" and "Avangard"

kolkhozes, who made the largest contribution in forming the MKhP statutory fund and with whom so far accounts haven't been settled in terms of indebtedness, received profits for each ruble of proportionate payment that were half as much as kolkhozes paying in less than half the total established for them. Consequently, the established practice of forming the MKhP statutory fund contradicts the bases of cost accounting relationships.

We conducted an analysis of the effect of MKhP operations on the over-all condition and effectiveness of poultry farming at participant farms of the cooperative system in the example of four kolkhozes. Prior to the organization of MKhP's, out of them "Druzhba" and "Avangard" were advanced poultry farms. In addition, the first kolkhoz is also a basic supplier of fodder. During the 1973-1975 period, i. e. prior to the creation of MKhP's, the "Druzhba" kolkhoz received profits of 407,000 rubles from poultry farming, and "Avangard" received profits of 272,000 rubles at profitability levels equal to 32.3 and 18.7 percent respectively. The transfer of farms to MKhP's didn't relieve these farms from the need to have their own small farms for satisfying internal demands. During the 1981-1983 period, the poultry farm indicators at them have noticeably deteriorated. At the "Druzhba" kolkhoz, egg production has been reduced from 16.8 million to 11.8 million units, or by 30 percent, and profit has been halved: a financial loss of 9,200 rubles was incurred from functioning of the newly restored poultry farm proper and a profit of 217,000 rubles was received from MKhP operations. It's also approximately the same result at the "Avangard" kolkhoz.

Prior to joining in cooperatives, there were small poultry farms at the kolkhoz imeni Krupskaya and "Zarya kommunizma" kolkhoz that were also retained at them following the creation of MKhP's. Both farms, which are also lagging behind in forming the statutory fund, didn't participate. Their participation is also negligible in fodder deliveries. Nevertheless, a profit of 82,000 rubles fell to the lot of the first kolkhoz and 97,200 rubles to the lot of the second one out of the profit that was received as a result of MKhP operations. However, the "Zarya kommunizma" kolkhoz incurred a loss of 86,000 rubles from its own farm and, as a result, the profit was only 11,200 rubles. These data mean that the economic relationships that have been formed lead to a redistribution of profit with an infringement upon the rights of advanced farms. Meanwhile, the essence of economic relationships must consist of creating equal management conditions and on this basis improving production effectiveness among all participants of the cooperative system.

In spite of the approved statute on the interfarm enterprise (organization) in agriculture, plans for the sale of poultry farm products are brought not to the participant kolkhozes of the cooperative system, but directly to the MKhP's. And what's more, only the sale of products to the state is provided for in the plans, and the internal demands of both the rayon and the participants of the cooperative system themselves (public catering enterprises, children's and medical institutions, etc.) are absolutely not taken into consideration. Therefore, kolkhozes are forced almost everywhere to once again restore small farms, the production on which is unprofitable, whereas MKhP's that belong to kolkhozes have real chances to considerably expand production and to completely satisfy all the needs of kolkhozes for poultry farm products. Consequently, one of the tasks, for the sake of which enterprises like these are also being created, once

again is incumbent upon the kolkhozes. The given practice undoubtedly reduces the personal interest of the latter in MKhP operations, but it also promotes their disengagement from the kolkhozes and their gradual conversion into specialized farms [spetskhozes].

The most complex problem is the organization of a strong fodder base at MKhP's. It's necessary to create it by virtue of fodder delivery by all participants of the cooperative system on equal grounds proceeding from the volume of the plan that is brought to each of them for selling products to the state. All fodder must be delivered to rayon mixed feed plants that process it into full-fledged mixed feeds. A form like this for organizing a fodder base is completely sound in poultry farming where dry transportable fodder--grain fodder and grass meal--comprise the basis for a fodder base. It makes it possible to most completely satisfy the demands for poultry farm products of each of the participants in a cooperative system and to precisely take into consideration its contribution to the creation of a fodder reserve.

However, in practice this central problem of the entire organization of production at MKhP's is being solved for the time being in a slow and unsatisfactory manner, and that was essentially caused by a lack of personal interest in MKhP operations on the part of participants of the cooperative system, which is due to a number of reasons. As mentioned above, included among them are violation of the established procedure for bringing up plans for purchasing products under the conditions of interfarm cooperation (plans are brought directly to the MKhP's), as well as the fact that, when there is a low level of fodder production, a majority of farms experience a constant shortfall of feeds. Because of the scarcity of fodder resources, MKhP's aren't in a position through accelerated rates to increase production and, consequently, to distribute the profit at the required volumes.

Under these conditions the entire operation for forming a fodder base is accomplished through administrative methods: the rayon plan for selling products to the state is distributed among kolkhozes in proportion to the area of arable land in each one and plans for their delivering MKhP grain fodder are established in accordance with this. At the beginning of the year, quotas for fodder deliveries are brought to participants of the cooperative system in accordance with planning indicators of the yield of fodder and grain fodder crops and the volume of fodder production. As a rule, the actual yield by the time the crops are harvested doesn't conform to the planned one and, therefore, it's necessary to repeatedly correct the quotas that were established earlier. A basic criterion in this regard is that each farm must provide its own livestock with no less than 60 percent of its grain fodder, and only then is it possible to raise a question concerning the fulfillment of obligations for MKhP's. The very planning and filling out of contracts for MKhP delivery of green and succulent fodder and grass meal essentially has been turned into a formality.

Full-fledged mixed feeds, which MKhP's receive in exchange for high-priced and hard wheat grain that is being turned over by participant farms, play an exceptionally important role in the feed ration of poultry. However, funds for mixed feeds like these are limited and frequently they aren't supplied under contract.

In practice, the quality of feeds that are being delivered by kolkhozes and the degree of fulfilling obligations for quantity, the products list and their delivery dates aren't taken into consideration during the creation of a fodder base. For example, as a rule, participant farms in Gulyaypolskiy Rayon are fulfilling the MKhP delivery plan for grass meal by less than 50 percent and by 10-20 percent for pea grain, millet grain and corn grain. Wheat for foodstuffs accounts for almost 80 percent of the entire amount of grain fodder. The matter is considerably worse in providing MKhP fodder like these in Kuybyshevskiy Rayon. An analysis showed that, as a whole, participants of the cooperative system annually fulfill the MKhP fodder delivery plans by no more than 60-70 percent. The remaining portion of fodder is delivered from the rayon funds in a generalized form.

The distribution among participant farms of products that are produced at MKhP's depending on the degree of their fulfilling the over-all plan for selling them (and meat first of all) to the state is also subject to certain corrections.

Given the established practice of fodder deliveries by participants of the cooperative system and the distribution among them of products produced at the MKhP's, it's impossible to determine the actual contribution of each partner in creating the fodder base, and there's no direct connection as well between fulfilling plans for the sale of poultry farm products by an interfarm enterprise and plans for the delivery of fodder by kolkhozes. Up to 80-90 percent of the profit is deducted for delivered fodder, and it's necessary to distribute it among the participants in proportion to the area of arable land, i.e. in equal parts.

The problem concerning the most organized form of fodder production remains a controversial one. In 13 rayons in Zaporozhe Oblast, all participants of the cooperative system are delivering fodder to interfarm enterprises on an equal basis. In two of the rayons, the delivery of grain fodder as a whole is placed upon individual farms with an appropriate distribution of plans for their selling grain to the state among the remaining participants of the cooperative system. All participant farms must deliver green and succulent fodder and grass meal.

Practice has shown that an allocation for conducting the fodder production of individual farms doesn't improve matters. For example, two of the largest kolkhozes in Kuybyshevskiy Rayon perform the fodder production functions for an interfarm enterprise. However, a diversified trend of production has been retained at them, their own commodity livestock breeding is being developed, and they're only partially relieved from fulfilling plans for the sale of grain to the state. Of course, conversion of fodder production to an industrial basis is impossible at farms like these. And what is more, when there's a low level of agriculture and it's unstable, the organization of fodder production on the basis of individual farms is subject to great risk and the possibilities for selecting fodder in accordance with a products list become narrower. But the greatest shortcoming of this method for organizing fodder production consists of the fact that with this approach the main link between an interfarm enterprise and the participant farms is disrupted, and because of that the meaning of the given form of cooperative system is essentially lost. At the same time, in

connection with its other forms (for example, a production association), this method of organizing fodder production is progressive in principle.

The basic reason for a lack of orderliness in creating a fodder base is concealed in the general low level of agriculture and, in this connection, of fodder production too. It's a complicated matter to create a stable and precisely organized fodder base at poultry farm MKhP's under these conditions. The drastic way out of the situation that has been created can be only in changing to intensive fodder production and to every possible increase in the production of such grain crops as corn and leguminous plants, as well as of the green bulk of perennial and annual grasses and so forth.

With the aim of creating a strong fodder base, its formation will be more proper by virtue of fodder delivery by all participants of the cooperative system, and not by individual farms. The main condition in this regard is the fulfillment by all participants of quotas in terms of both the sale of products to the state and shipments of products under subcontracting arrangements. The high personal interest of farms in delivering fodder in accordance with the required amount, products list and quality can serve as a great motivation for fulfilling such quotas, and for that it's important to develop and incorporate an appropriate material incentive system. During the planning procedure, it's important to provide from state resources for supplying interfarm mixed feed plants with protein and vitamin supplements, premixes and stabilizers for the storage of grass meal. It would be lawful to supply under contract that portion of output, which interfarm enterprises deliver for supplying large cities and industrial centers in accordance with orders of trade organizations, with mixed feeds from state resources on equal grounds with Ptitseprom [Poultry Raising Industry Administration] enterprises.

The system for completing MKhP's with poultry is being implemented by pedigree farms of the Ptitseprom system of both Zaporozhe and a number of other oblasts of the Ukrainian SSR. There is no permanent assignment of MKhP's to certain suppliers. Up to 8-10 million incubation eggs annually are shipped to the oblast from various oblasts of the republic, and that extremely complicates the veterinary welfare of farms and hinders the prevention of poultry disease.

In addition, the oblast's MKhP's are 70 percent completed with poultry of highly vigorous crosses; that doesn't meet production requirements and, as a rule, it's not the finished ones, but rather intermediate or even lineal forms that are brought here. The situation that is taking shape in broiler production, where four-line hybrids of poultry are used, is even worse; that requires rigid proportionality in the production capacities of pedigree farms and coordination on the delivery dates of poultry stock. Such poultry species as ducks, geese and turkeys are bred by virtue of their own reproduction at ordinary small kolkhoz farms.

In our opinion, with the aim of improving the organization of completing MKhP farms with pedigree poultry stock, it's advisable to establish a State plan for Ptitseprom enterprises for delivering incubation eggs of finished paternal forms to interfarm enterprises. Henceforth, before solving this problem it's

necessary to provide for the planned supply of pedigree poultry farms with full-fledged mixed feeds from state resources (by way of exchange and countersale).

The situation that has arisen with the use of off-grade eggs is unsatisfactory. In the majority of cases, they're fed to the poultry. For example, at the Kuybyshev MKhP up to 10 percent of the gross egg production is used for feeding the poultry. At the same time, it's completely possible to build and equip on an interfarm basis one or two powdered egg preparation shops to which poultry farm enterprises of all categories, including MKhP's and the Ptitseprom system, could deliver off-grade eggs.

Interfarm enterprises are experiencing great difficulties in the sale of off-grade poultry. Production capacities of the poultry processing industry are counted on just for primary poultry processing. Meanwhile, industrial processing and the temporary suspension of off-grade products could substantially improve supplying the oblast's cities and settlements with meat.

Material and technical support of interfarm enterprises, which are lacking everything that is necessary for prevention as the most effective method of providing for the veterinary welfare of farms, remains disordered. There aren't enough warehouse facilities, equipment for grading eggs, packaging materials, spare parts for industrial equipment, and no stabilizers for storing grass meal at MKhP's.

A major shortcoming is the discontinuation since 1980 of the delivery to interkolkhoz mixed feed plants of mixed feed protein and vitamin supplements for poultry and the nonallocation to them of quotas for mineral supplements and fish, meat and bone meal. Quotas for mixed feed in exchange for foodstuff grain and for the countersale of other crop production are limited.

Some problems that also pertain to the statute itself concerning the interfarm enterprise (organization) in agriculture require a solution. In particular, the allotment of lands to MKhP's for constructing production and residential buildings, as well as for setting aside ones that go to work from the aspect of plots for vegetable gardens, isn't provided for by the statute. The problem concerning payment in kind of MKhP workers hasn't been solved. Egg and poultry meat quotas for public dining haven't been stipulated.

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TASKS OF STAVROPOL KRAY EXPERIMENT DETAILED AT PARTY PLENUM

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Sep 85 p 2

/Article by S. Timofeyev: "Cost Accounting Relationships -- The Foundation for All Work"/

/Text/ A large-scale economic experiment directed towards expanding economic independence and converting agricultural enterprises over to the self-repayment system will commence early next year in Stavropol Kray. The chief goal of this experiment will be to further improve production relationships in the rural areas and to create an economic mechanism which will make it possible to raise sharply the operational efficiency of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes and increase the production and procurements of products.

A discussion took place during the regular plenum of the kray party committee regarding the tasks of the kray party organization and all Stavropol workers in connection with the carrying out of the experiment. The speaker, 1st secretary of the kray CPSU committee V.S. Murakhovskiy, and those who participated in the debates, after focusing attention on the establishment of the specific tasks and the best method for carrying out the experiment, analyzed thoroughly the status of the economic and organizational work in the labor collectives and the manner in which the kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other elements of the agroindustrial complex are carrying out the plans for the current five-year plan and they also examined the obligations that are being developed for the next five-year period.

This new experiment is predicated upon a high degree of confidence in the personnel and labor collectives and its conditions call for over-fulfillment by the farms of their production and procurement volumes for all types of products. It was stipulated that all measures associated with the carrying out of expanded reproduction must be implemented using only the internal resources available on the farms.

"And are all of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes and their leaders really prepared for this?" asked many of the speakers and thereafter they themselves answered this question, "As yet, not all of them. In order to carry out expanded reproduction successfully and operate on a self-repayment basis, it is necessary, in the opinion of the specialists, to have a profitability of not less than 35 percent. It was stated in the report that the profitability level achieved on many farms is still considerably lower and that profits must be doubled in the immediate future. Such a goal is realistic. The strengthening of the logistical base, growth in capital supply and also in the power-worker ratio made it possible during the years of the current five-year plan to

increase the volume of gross agricultural output by 15.5 percent compared to the 10th Five-Year Plan."

The potential for achieving an even sharper increase in the production of grain, meat, milk and other agricultural products has by no means been exhausted and this is borne out by the experience of leading workers. Last year again the farms in Kirovskiy, Apanasenkovskiy and Petrovskiy rayons achieved a profitability of 37.7-35.6 percent. Moreover, 1st secretary of the Petrovskiy Rayon Party Committee I.A. Tolstoy emphasized in his speech during the Plenum that the high increase in the volumes of agricultural products was obtained with no increase in the number of workers. The collective contract, the departmental administrative structure and enlarged crop rotation plans made it possible to form primary cost accounting subunits which possess sufficient operational-economic independence and which are capable of employing effectively the modern equipment and technologies.

It was mentioned during the plenum that the conditions of the experiment call for a combination of centralized control over administration and planning with an expansion in the rights and obligations of the kolkhozes and sovkhoses which would force the farms, from year to year and based upon their own initiative, to increase the output production volumes, raise the quality of the products and lower production costs. The party organizations are being confronted with serious tasks in this regard. They must advocate general economic training in a more persistent manner and they must bring about a change in the economic thinking of people, particularly the leaders of various elements of agricultural production.

Truly, the level of creative work in labor collectives is largely dependent upon the leaders and their competence, experience and authority. These qualities are of even greater importance for an experiment that has just commenced. This is why the rayon party committees in all areas have organized the certification of specialists in agricultural matters and this is why an institute was created for improving the skills of leaders of all ranks and for conducting seminars and interviews on a regular basis. During the plenum, the leaders of Andropovskiy, Karachayevskiy, Kurskiy, Mineralovodskiy rayons and of the sovkhoses Oktyabrskiy, Bogdanovskiy and Yegorlykskiy were criticized sharply. Here they are not attaching proper value to those organizational-economic and social reserves which are capable of providing a rapid return, they are not displaying proper concern for the workers, sufficient use is not being made of the brigade contract system and adequate interest is not being shown in raising labor productivity, increasing the production of goods or in improving the quality of these goods. And indeed it is impossible to live with such a level of production management under self-repayment conditions.

It was by no means an accident that the participants in the plenum gave their approval to the words uttered by a team leader at the Izobilnenskiy Sovkhoz, Hero of Socialist Labor D.A. Zolin.

"In the case of our own families" he noted, "We count out our earnings, we give careful thought to what must be purchased and to how much is to be spent or placed in savings. And yet the kolkhozes and sovkhoses are similar type

families. And all money earned by diligent labor must be expended in an intelligent and thrifty manner and for a purpose decided upon earlier. In this manner we will achieve both self-repayment and expanded reproduction.

It was 3 years ago that the experiment discussed during the plenum was launched at the Stavropolskoye Broiler Association. Its general director V.I. Postnikov shared his accumulated experience with those who participated in the plenum. He views success as being based upon a thorough study and mastering of cost accounting and upon reorganizing the psychology of people, who now are beginning to display more interest in production, planning, profits and in the profitability level. In accordance with their proposal, 120 surplus motor vehicles and 7 million rubles worth of unnecessary equipment were sold. The obligations for the 12th Five-Year Plan have already been outlined in the association's collective.

"Under the conditions imposed by independent planning and the elimination of petty support, the work of the rayon party committees, the RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/ staff and the agricultural administrations must be organized anew" stated V.I. Postnikov in conclusion, "Planning and administration should be organized in a manner such that the leading personnel on the farms acquire independence and there no longer is any need for sending representatives or authorized agents out to the farms for carrying out important agricultural work over a period of time. A persistent search should be undertaken for new operational forms and methods in the interest of stimulating initiative in the various areas and instilling in the personnel an understanding of the national importance of their routine endeavors.

Those participating in the plenum emphasized that consistent intensification of the branches, increased profitability and the creation of the principles of self-repayment are largely dependent upon the skilful carrying out of a regime directed towards achieving savings and thrift.

The path to be followed for achieving cheaper output requires the creation of an efficient and scientifically sound system of management. In addition to stimulating the labor collectives into achieving high production indicators, a search must also be undertaken to isolate areas of mismanagement and over-expenditures of planned resources.

The path leading to self-repayment is a difficult one. The shortcomings in party and economic work, uncovered in the speeches delivered during the plenum, underscore the fact that some party committees are not exercising proper control over the organizational and political work being carried out in the cost accounting labor collectives, teams, brigades and detachments. The task has been assigned of ensuring that the structure of the party organizations conforms to the new production organization: each cost accounting subunit must have a party organization, party group or party organizer. For it is through these elements that greater control can be exercised over strict observance of the principles of cost accounting and an increase can be realized in the responsibility of all concerned for the final results of management.

In the decree adopted during the plenum, approval was given for those measures directed towards converting over to complete cost accounting, to achieving self-repayment for the agricultural enterprises, to increasing the production of goods and to raising the profitability of the branches.

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